Workshop on Eco-tourism

628. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that a workshop on Eco-tourism was organised during the Fourth World Congress on parks and protected Area at Caracas (Venezuea) ;

(b) if so, the points discussed at the workshop ;

(c) whether Government propose to incorporate those points in its tourism policy : and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI M. O. H. FAROOK) : (a) to (d) Non of the concerned Ministries of the Government, namely Ministry of Tourism and the Ministry of Environment and Forests have participated in the workshop.

Pending Proposals of M.P. for Development of Tourism

629. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI :

KUMARI ALIA :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of proposals are pending with the Central Government for development of tourism in Madhya Pradesh ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) what steps Government have taken in this regard ; and

(d) what new initiatives have been taken by Government to encourage tourism in Madhya Pradesh in particular and the nation in general ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) to (c) One project proposal for the construction of a Forest Lodge at Bori could not be sanctioned during 1991-92 for want of clarifications from the State Government. The State Government has been requested to forward the requisite information.

(d) Development and promotion of tourism in the country is a continuous process. In order to further develop tourism in the country, 15 circuits and destinations have been identified out of which two circuits are in the State of Madhya Pradesh.

Private Foreign Companies in India's Air Travel Market

630. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal is under the consideration of Government to permit private foreign companies in India's air travel market ;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard ;

(c) whether Government's attention have been drawn to the news item that appeared in the Times of India of 27th March, 1992 captioned "Boeing eyes India—Bullish growth seen in travel industry" ;

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto ;

(e) whether Boeing and or any other foreign company has approached the Government of India in this regard ; and

(f) if so, what decision has been taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) and (b) According to the existing guidelines, only private Indian companies can operate air taxi services in the country.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) to (f) Boeing-777 is a medium capacity and medium to long range aircraft and would be evaluated along with other similar aircraft in accordance with the fleet renewal plans of Air India/Indian Airlines.